TSNRP * news

From the Director



LTC Deborah Kenny

Welcome to our second issue of the newsletter. We are busier than ever with many projects. I would first like to say, however, "Thank you, Congress!" I am thrilled to announce that TSNRP has received funding for new grants. We funded nine successful proposals from the FY 2007 and FY 2008A Call for Proposals. This

funding will enable us to continue supporting outstanding research by military nurses. Information on FY 2009 Call for Proposals will be provided on our Web site in July.

OUTREACH efforts are under way to spread the word about our great program and exceptional researchers. TSNRP actively participated in panels that discussed funding opportunities for all four regional nursing research conferences (those of the Eastern, Southern, and Midwestern chapters of the Nursing Research Society and the Western Institute of Nursing) and for the American Association of the Colleges of Nursing's Doctoral Education Conference in January. Other panelists included representatives from the National Institute of Nursing Research, the Public Health Service, and the Veterans Administration, to name a few.

The staff and I were interviewed for an article in the April 2008 issue of *Advance for Nurses*. In the interview, we discussed the purpose and activities of TSNRP. We also

were asked to submit an article to the online commemorative publication *Salute to Freedom* for May 2008 and to the May–June 2008 issue of the online journal *Reflections on Nursing Leadership*. TSNRP is definitely becoming a known entity!

EDUCATION is another area in which we have been extremely busy, not only with the grant pre-award process but also with our educational offerings. There's a lot of interest in our Publication Workshop, which immediately follows the Phyllis J. Verhonick Research Conference in May. A full slate of potential researchers will attend our Grant Camp in May and our Researcher Development Course in August. The annual Post-Award Grant Management Workshop for newly funded researchers will be back this year. This required workshop will be held from July 30 through August I. If you have not attended, please call or e-mail our staff. The Executive Board of Directors has expressed interest in sponsoring a new type of Grant Camp for those interested in submitting Evidence-Based Practice proposals, and we are beginning to look into this idea.

WE ARE MOVING! A big thank you goes to the Air Force for offering us a building at Andrews Air Force Base. We will be moving in June and expect to have new phone numbers; we will keep you posted via our Web site.

Thank you for your continued support of TSNRP.

Deb Kenny, PhD, RN, LTC, AN, USA

SPRING/SUMMER 2008



TSNRP news is published twice each year by the TriService Nursing Research Program. It is available online at www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp/links/newsletters.shtml.

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** Advisory Council: Outgoing Members

TSNRP's Advisory Council

The TriService Nursing Research Program Advisory Council (AC) consists of one active duty and one reserve member from each of the three services: Army, Navy, and Air Force. AC members all have doctoral degrees in nursing; current research experience, including proposal and grant development; post-dissertation funding; and experience on scientific and programmatic review panels. While serving on the AC, members are ineligible for TSNRP funding in any grant capacity (e.g., principal investigator, associate investigator, mentor).

The Council provides second-level review of grant applications and recommends to the Executive Board of Directors, via the TSNRP Director, which applications should be approved and considered for funding. These recommendations are based not only on considerations of their scientific merit but also on the relevance of the proposed project to TSNRP programs and priorities.

Join us as we say farewell and thank you to COL Jan Harris, CAPT Maggie Richard, Col. John Murray, CAPT Janice Stinson, and Col. Martha Sleutel and welcome aboard our new members. COL Kathleen Dunemn. CAPT Linnea Axman, Col. Michaela Shafer, COL Phyllis Ann Chelette, CAPT Cathy Cox, and Lt. Col. Adele Hill!

COL Janet R. Harris, PhD, MSN

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2003-2008

COL Janet R. Harris, PhD, MSN, AN, USA, is director of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs, overseeing all facets of the Department of Defense's breast cancer, prostate cancer, ovarian cancer, neurofibromatosis, and other peer-reviewed medical research programs for the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. With 29 years of military experience, she has served as chief of the Department of Nursing Science at Fort Sam Houston, chief of Nursing Research Service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and nursing research consultant to the Army Surgeon General.

COL Harris received her BS in nursing from the University of Nebraska, an MSN from the University of Washington, and a PhD in nursing from the University of Maryland in Baltimore. She is an associate professor of nursing at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, with funded research on ethics in clinical practice, hospital-acquired pneumonia, and other pulmonary conditions.

COL Harris's military awards include the Meritorious Service Award with two oak leaf clusters (OLC), Army Commendation Medal with two OLC, the Army Achievement Medal, the Order of Military Medical Merit, and the "A" Professional Designator. Her professional awards

include the Dr. Anita Newcomb-McGee Award for U.S. Army Nurse of the Year in 2000, the Federal Nursing Service Award in 1997, and the Phyllis J. Verhonick Army Nurse Corps Award of Excellence in Research in 1990 and 1998. COL Harris has served on editorial boards for the U.S Army Medical Department and the Association of Critical Care Nurses.

CAPT Maggie Richard, PhD, MSN TSNRP Advisory Council, 2005–2008

CAPT Maggie Richard, PhD, MSN, NC, USN, is currently head of nursing research services at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, and will report to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in July 2008 as the director of the Human Research Protection Program. Since her commission in 1985, she has served in a variety of positions, including as director of managed care at the Naval Hospital in Guam and as a community

CAPT Richard received her undergraduate nursing degree from Texas Woman's University, an MSN in community health from Old Dominion University, and her PhD in nursing from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She has been involved in various research and Evidence-Based Practice projects. She contributes to baccalaureate and advanced education as an associate professor and serves as a consultant to various church and community groups. She also represents TriService

health nurse in Chinhae, Korea.



COL Janet R. Harris



CAPT Maggie Richard



Col. John Murray



CAPT Janice Stinson



Col. Martha Sleutel

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Nursing as a member of the National Institute of Nursing Research's National Advisory Council for Nursing Research.

CAPT Richard has received a number of military awards throughout her career and won the 2003 Dissertation Award from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Col. John S. Murray, PhD, RN, CPNP, CS, FAAN

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2003–2008

Col. John S. Murray, PhD, RN, CPNP, CS, FAAN, USAF, NC, is currently the director of education, training, and research for the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical Command; he was previously director of strategic planning, Office of Integration, National Capital Area Military Health System, at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Since his commission in 1984, Col. Murray has served as consultant to the Surgeon General in both pediatrics and research, and he was associate dean in the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, where he was the first Department of Defense (DoD) nurse appointed full professor.

He received his BS in nursing at Northeastern University in Boston, an MS in pediatric acute and chronic care nursing from Boston College, a post-master's certificate as a pediatric nurse practitioner, and his PhD in nursing at the University of Texas in Austin. Col. Murray has been the DoD representative to the National Institute of Nursing Research's National Advisory Council for Nursing Research and serves as a research consultant to the International Council of Nurses. He researches the care of siblings of children with cancer and those with chronic illnesses, and he is the lead investigator on a congressionally funded grant of more than \$3.2 million.

Col. Murray is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and currently serves on the editorial boards of several nursing and research journals. In 2006, he became the first DoD nurse selected as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar. Col. Murray is president of the Federal Nurses Association and has authored legislation and resolutions for the American Nurses Association on workplace abuse and harassment of nurses.

CAPT Janice Stinson, PhD, RN

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2001–2008

CAPT Janice Stinson, PhD, RN, NC, USNR, is currently executive officer of the Operational Health Support Unit at Camp Pendleton in California. Commissioned in the Navy reserve in 1973, she has had three commands and been in three officer-in-charge (OIC) positions in Naval hospital reserve units (including OIC of a 350-member unit at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego). She also has held a Readiness Command Northwest staff reserve position and sat on four naval statutory boards.

CAPT Stinson received both her BS and MS in nursing from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a PhD from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). She is an adjunct nursing professor at UCSF and a staff nurse in labor and delivery at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Berkeley, California. Her funded research involves pregnant active duty women.

CAPT Stinson has supported military humanitarian missions in Cambodia and Alaska as well as civilian missions in India, and she looks forward to participating in the Pacific Partnership Mission aboard USNS *Mercy* in Vietnam in the summer of 2008.

Col. Martha Sleutel, PhD, RN, CNS

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2006–2007

Col. Martha Sleutel, PhD, RN, CNS, USAFR, NC (ret), was assigned to the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical Command to oversee health care delivery to the military services in the Washington, D.C., area. Previous assignments included teaching in the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences School of Nursing in Bethesda, Maryland, and assisting with Air Force nursing and medical courses in flight nursing, expeditionary medicine, and critical care air transport at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Since her commission in 1982, Col. Sleutel has been assigned to a variety of Air Force medical facilities.

Col. Sleutel completed her BS in nursing at the University of Texas, El Paso, her MS in maternal-child nursing at the University of Utah, and her PhD in nursing at the University of Texas, Austin. She is an associate professor of nursing at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, and a member of both Phi Kappa Phi National Academic Honor Society and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society. Her research has focused on intrapartum care nursing interventions to improve women's maternal labor.

Col. Sleutel was nominated by the 17th Medical Group, Goodfellow Air Force Base, as an Outstanding United States Air Force Reservist for Air Education and Training Command. She is president of the Texas Nurses Association, District 16. and has been a member of the Research Advisory Panel and the Professional Issues Advisory Panel for the Association of Women's Health. Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. She is a reviewer (and has served as guest editor) for the Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, & Neonatal Nursing; Nursing Research; and the Journal of Nursing Measurement. In addition, during 2002, she reviewed health grants for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



Advisory Council: Incoming Members

COL Kathleen N. Dunemn, PhD, RN, CNM

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

COL Kathleen N. Dunemn, PhD, RN. CNM, AN, USA, is deputy commander for nursing at Moncrief Army Community Hospital in Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and nursing education/enlisted training and development consultant to the Army Surgeon General. Her career includes service as chief of the Department of Nursing and chief of the Department of Education at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas; senior staff officer, senior military analyst, and deputy director at the Department of Defense Joint Theater Trauma Registry Demonstration Project at the Center for AMEDD Strategic Studies; and chief of nursing research and education at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.

COL Dunemn earned her undergraduate nursing degree at the University of Northern Colorado, a master's in community health nursing and education from San Jose State University, a master's in nursing with a focus on nurse-midwifery from the University of Colorado, and a PhD in nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She maintains her nurse-midwifery credentials and has held adjunct professorships at a variety of universities. She is currently research chair, Alpha Xi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, and is on the Dorn Veteran's Administration IRB. In June 2008, COL Dunemn will become director of nursing sciences at U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School. Her research includes second-stage labor, nursing research priorities and women's health issues in a deployed environment, and development of metrics-based process improvement for clinical settings.

In 2003, COL Dunemn led a mobile training team to the Czech Republic to help draft a proposal for an Army Nurse Corps within the Army of the Czech Republic. She received the Anita Newcomb McGee Award for Army Nurse of the Year in 2007. She mentors many graduate students in research design and statistical analysis methodologies.

CAPT Linnea M. Axman, MS, DPH

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

CAPT Linnea M. Axman, MS, DPH, NC, USN, is executive officer of the Naval School of Health in San Diego. In the Nurse Corps since 1985, she has served in many positions, including as special assistant for women's health and as a health services researcher at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C., and as senior nurse executive for the director of professional education at the Naval Medical Center San Diego. She was the Department of Defense core team representative on the U.S. government team for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief in Sub-Saharan Africa from January 2004 to May 2006.

CAPT Axman earned her BS in nursing from the University of Michigan, an MS in nursing as a family nurse practitioner from the University of Kentucky, and a DPH from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. CAPT Axman is a graduate of the United States Naval War College and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Her decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), and the Navy Achievement Medal (three awards). CAPT Axman received the Recent Alumni Achievement Award from George Washington University in 2007 and belongs to both Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society and Delta Omega National Public Health Honor Society. She has served as president of the Uniformed Nurse Practitioner's Association and as military

representative to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services and to the Committee on Women in NATO Forces. Her professional memberships include the American Public Health Association, the American Association of Ambulatory Care Nurses, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.

Col. Michaela R. Shafer, PhD, MSN TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

Col. Michaela R. Shafer, PhD, MSN, USAF, NC, is an assistant professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USUHS) Graduate School of Nursing. Before arriving at USUHS, Col. Shafer was the commander of the 959th Surgical Operations Squadron, 59th Surgical Ops Group, Wilford Hall Medical Center, at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas. Prior to that, she served as deputy to the wing nurse, 59th Medical Wing, Wilford Hall Medical Center, and was deputy chief nurse in the 10th MDOS Deputy SQ/CC and acute care flight commander at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. She has served as a clinical nurse specialist at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio and as chief of hyperbaric nursing services at Brooks Air Force Base in Texas.

Col. Shafer earned a BSN at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and her MSN and PhD at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio. Her research has included projects on the use of therapeutic touch on unstable angina pain and the effects of hyperbaric oxygen on glucose regulation and metabolism. Col. Shafer authored the certification course on hyperbaric nursing and developed the Leadership/Mentoring Course for Middle Managers at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. She is an American Academy of Professional Coders certified coder, a certified legal

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nurse consultant, and certified in hyperbaric nursing.

Col. Shafer has been awarded the Women's Leadership Award for Research and the Marilyn D. Willman Award for Scholarship, both from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. She received both the first Clinical Nursing Excellence Award and the Federal Nursing Services Award from the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS). Col. Shafer has been named Nurse of the Year at two commands. She is a member of the American Association of Ambulatory Care Nursing, the American Organization of Nurse Executives, AMSUS, and Sigma Theta Tau International.

COL Phyllis Ann Chelette, PhD, MPH

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

COL Phyllis Ann Chelette, PhD, MPH, AN, USAR, is the deputy chief nurse executive, U.S. Army Medical Command, drilling individual mobilization augmentee, Operation Iraqi Freedom, at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. During her 27 years of service with the U.S. Army Reserve, COL Chelette also has served as the head nurse of the medical unit and a medical-surgical nurse at the Bayne-Jones Army Community Hospital, Department of Nursing, Operation Desert Storm, at Fort Polk in Louisiana. She has been a medical-surgical nurse and a nursing instructor in a variety of commands.

COL Chelette earned her BS in nursing at the University of Louisiana in Lafay-

ette, her MPH at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in New Orleans, and her PhD in nursing at Texas Woman's University in Denton. She is currently on leave of absence from her position as chair of the



Division of Nursing at Louisiana College in Pineville. As chair, COL Chelette guided the nursing division to accreditation with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing-Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (AACN-CCNE) in 2003. COL Chelette holds an advanced certificate in nursing administration from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She served as a co-investigator on a Beta Chi, Sigma Theta Tau International research project on the Working People's Free Clinic in Alexandria, Louisiana, and as principal investigator on a Faith and Health Initiative intended to raise the health status of citizens in 11 parishes in central Louisiana. She has worked collaboratively with the Office of Public Health, Emory University's Rollins School of Public Interfaith Health Program, monitoring program outcomes.

COL Chelette's military awards include the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with three oak leaf clusters); the Army Commendation Medal, 11th Battalion CGSC; and the Army Commendation Medal, Operation Desert Storm. She is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit. She is an on-site evaluator for CCNE and a member of the American Nurses Association and the Nu Tau chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

CAPT Catherine Cox, PhD, RN

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

CAPT Catherine Wilson Cox, PhD, RN, CCRN, CEN, CCNS, NC, USNR, is in the Individual Ready Reserve in Okinawa, Japan, with her active duty Navy spouse. She began her Navy career as an active duty staff nurse at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, and transferred to the reserves five years later. CAPT Cox has served in medical treatment facilities in Portsmouth, Virginia; Pensacola, Florida; and Bethesda as well as at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C. She transferred to the Individual Ready Reserve in 2006.

CAPT Cox received her BSN from Radford University in Radford, Virginia, in 1981; her MSN in critical care and nursing education from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia, in 1988; and her PhD in nursing from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, in 2002. She recently completed a funded research project with Georgetown University on the history of terrorism and the implications of terrorism for nursing preparedness. She specifically developed this research when she noticed a gap in the literature; she was unable to locate a single nursing article on terrorism that "puts it all together" for both nursing students and practicing nurses.

CAPT Cox has been funded twice through TSNRP.

Lt. Col. Adele C. Hill, PhD

TSNRP Advisory Council, 2008

Lt. Col. Adele Hill, PhD, USAFR, NC, currently serves as chief nurse for the 439 Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts. She deployed for Operation



COL Kathleen Dunemn CAPT Linnea Axman



CAPT Catherine Cox



Lt. Col. Adele Hill

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Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom to support aeromedical evacuation operations. Her specialty areas include aeromedical evacuation, trauma, emergency department medical care, and staff development. Lt. Col. Hill works as a family nurse practitioner for a private practice in Massachusetts.

She received her bachelor's and master's degrees and a PhD in nursing from Boston College as well as a post-master's certificate in family health from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. During 2006, Lt. Col. Hill published her dissertation "Determinants of Quality of Life in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: A Nursing Investigation." She is an affiliate faculty member, teaching the Trauma Nurse Core Course, Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Basic Life Support, and Pediatric Advanced Life Support.

Lt. Col. Hill has twice received the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal and has been awarded four Air Force Achievement Medals. She is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit. She is the medical coordinator for Reach Out and Read® and a reviewer for the Journal of Emergency Nursing. Lt. Col. Hill is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association, the Aerospace Medical Association, the Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association, the American Trauma Society, the Society of Trauma Nurses, and the Society of Critical Care Medicine and belongs to the Alpha Chi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

👯 Research Spotlight

The Influence of Culture on Soldiers' Tobacco Use: Illuminating Patterns, Practices, and Experiences

BG (ret) Jenenne P. Nelson, ANG, PhD, CNS, RN



BG Jenenne Nelson

Today, military leaders view tobacco as a negative habit, particularly when past research suggests that its use increases health care costs,

adversely affects readiness, and impacts soldiers' physical performance. However, tobacco use among soldiers was prevalent throughout the 20th century. The old adage "smoke 'em if you got 'em," a common Army saying in the past, symbolizes tobacco availability and the possible hidden expectation of use during both the past and present cultures.

Soldiers have used and continue to use tobacco to get a break from their work, boost morale, and reduce stress when assigned to work in austere conditions. Soldiers recognize the risks of tobacco use; yet, the risks of using tobacco are downplayed by soldiers when compared to the risks associated with war and the need to moderate stress.

To understand soldiers' tobacco use in the Army culture, our research team used an ethnographic approach to explore tobacco-use patterns, practices, and experiences of soldiers who currently use tobacco, who have quit tobacco and remained abstinent, and who have quit tobacco and returned to tobacco use. Data included observations in the study setting over one year with hundreds of informal interviews and 72 formal interviews. The final sample size of formal interviewees was determined by data saturation.

Five themes were uncovered in this study: (1) experiences associated with use of tobacco, (2) tobacco use in the Army, (3) experiences of starting and restarting tobacco use, (4) balancing health risks with tobacco use, and (5) tobacco-use regulations and policies. Each theme illuminates soldiers' unique tobacco-use patterns, practices, and experiences. Further, findings confirm that tobacco use is embedded in the Army culture. One surprising discovery was that soldiers use smokeless tobacco both indoors and outdoors to circumvent smoking restrictions. In fact, the researchers encountered soldiers using smokeless tobacco indoors throughout the study. In addition, because of the overall prevalence of tobacco use, both cessation and abstinence were difficult for soldiers trying to change their tobaccouse patterns. One informant noted that if he "really, really wanted to quit ... you have to get out of the Army."

Some study recommendations include the following:

 Limit tobacco use in uniform. If the Army wants to be viewed as a professional organization, it should not allow soldiers to use tobacco in uniform. If the Army continues to allow soldiers to use tobacco,

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it should seriously consider limiting soldiers' tobacco use while in uniform.

- Address all forms of tobacco in army regulations. Army regulations should address all forms of tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, and smokeless tobacco.
- Design and evaluate culturally appropriate interventions.
 Tobacco interventions that are culturally appropriate need to be designed, implemented, and evaluated. Interventions should include not only cessation techniques for current users but also for nonusers. Nonusers should be encouraged to maintain abstinence.
- Communicate health messages.
 Commanders and supervisors should consistently communicate health messages related to tobacco use. Soldiers of all ranks need to be encouraged to stop using tobacco, and commanders and supervisors can best influence a cultural change in tobacco use.

This research was sponsored by the TriService Nursing Research Program, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; however, the information or content and conclusions do not necessarily represent the official position or policy of, nor should any official endorsement be inferred by, the TriService Nursing Research Program, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Government.

Reducing Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia: A Clinical Trial

COL (ret) Mary Jo Grap, AN, USA, PhD, RN, Principal Investigator



COL Mary Jo Grap

Pneumonia is a common complication of mechanical ventilation (ventilatorassociated pneumonia [VAP]) that occurs

in 25% of ventilated patients (Fagon et al., 1993; Tablan et al., 1994; Dreyfuss et al., 1995), is responsible for 90% of nosocomial infections in this patient population (Chevret, Hemmer, Carlet, & Langer, 1993; Álvarez-Lerma et al., 1997), and is the leading cause of death from nosocomial infections (Craven, Steger, & Barber, 1991). One of the most critical risk factors for the development of nosocomial pneumonia in patients who are intubated is colonization of the oropharynx (Fourrier, Duvivier, Boutigny, Rourrel-Delvallez, & Chopin, 1998; Garrouste et al., 1997). Growth of potentially pathogenic bacteria in dental plaque provides a nidus of infection for microorganisms that have been shown to be responsible for the development of VAP (Fourrier et al.; Scannapieco, Stewart, & Mylotte, 1992; Schwartz et al., 1978; Rubenstein, Kabat, Shulman, & Yogev, 1992). After intubation, the endotracheal tube provides a pathway for direct entry of bacteria from the oropharynx through an open glottis to the lower respiratory tract. Thus, reducing the number of microorganisms in the mouth reduces the pool of organisms available for translocation

to and colonization of the lung. The primary aim of this study, entitled "A Peri-Intubation Intervention to Reduce Oral Flora and VAP," is to test the effect of a peri-intubation oral intervention on oral microbial flora in traumatic injury. A secondary aim is to test the effect of this intervention on the development of VAP in traumatic injury.

The multidisciplinary study team from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond, Virginia, includes nurse researchers COL (ret) Mary Jo Grap, AN, USA (principal investigator) and Cindy Munro; physicians Drs. Curtis N. Sessler and Kevin Ward; biostatistician Dr. R. K. Elswick; and Army nurse Stephanie M. Higgins. This randomized, two group (intervention and control) clinical trial of a single application of chlorhexidine to the oral cavity following endotracheal intubation (within 12 hours of intubation) is being conducted in 200 adult trauma victims at the VCU Medical Center.

Data related to oral microbial flora (semi-quantitative oral culture) and VAP (clinical pulmonary infection score [CPIS]) are being obtained on study admission and at 24 (oral culture data only), 48, and 72 hours after intubation. The exact Wilcoxon two-sample, one-sided test will be used to test for differences between groups. CPIS data will be compared using an analysis of covariance model. Covariates such as baseline oral culture category, trauma-injury and severity score (TRISS), illness severity (APACHE III), and frequency and timing of usual oral care also will be included. To date, 150 subjects have been enrolled, and study completion is expected this summer. The findings from this study will be the first report of an empirically based peri-intubation oral intervention to reduce VAP and

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Research Spotlight, continued

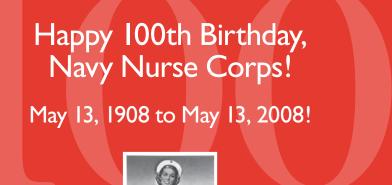
can be easily applied to the care of traumatic injury in both combat and civilian casualties. *

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🧱 Journal Publications

Published Articles by TSNRP Researchers

TSNRP encourages and supports the publication of TSNRP-funded research in peer-reviewed journals. The dissemination of findings is critical for the nursing community. Provided below is a list of articles published during 2008 along with 2007 and 2006 articles that were not listed in the previous issue of *TSNRP News*. Congratulations to those who have published. If we have missed a publication, please let us know.

2008

Bridges, E. J. (2008). Arterial pressure-based stroke volume and functional hemodynamic monitoring. *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, *23*(2), 105–112.

Bridges, E. J., Schmelz, J., & Kelley, P. W. (2008). Military nursing research: Translation to disaster response and day-to-day critical care nursing. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 20(1), 121–131, viii.

Cox, C. (2008). Research considerations when studying disasters. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 20(1), 111–119.

Freyling, M. E., Kesten, K. S, & Heath, J. (2008). The synergy model at work in a military ICU in Iraq. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 20(1), 23–29.

Gorges, M., & Staggers, N. (2008). Evaluations of physiological monitoring displays: A systematic review. *Journal of Clinical Monitoring and Computing*, 22(1), 45–66.

Hale, J. (2008). Managing a disaster scene and multiple casualties before

help arrives. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 20(1), 91–102.

Kenny, D. J., & Hull, M. S. (2008). Critical care nurses' experiences caring for the casualties of war evacuated from the front line: Lessons learned and needs identified. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 20(1), 41–49.

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Kudos

Promotions

The following military nurse researchers have been promoted in military rank. Please join us in extending congratulations to these exceptional nurses.

U.S. Army Nurse Corps

- LTC Rachael Armstrong to COL
- LTC Petra Goodman to COL
- LTC Veronica Thurmond to COL
- MAJ Laura Feider to LTC

Recent Appointments

Congratulations are in order to the many military nurses who recently took on new appointments. Their names and new positions are provided below.

- COL Bruce Schoneboom, AN, USA Acting dean of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS)
- LTC Mona Bingham, AN, USA
 Consultant to the Surgeon General for nursing research and specialty leader for U.S. nurse researchers
- COL Kathleen Dunemn, AN, USAR Consultant to the Surgeon General for education/enlisted training and development
- CAPT Linnea Axman, NC, USN Executive officer of the Naval School of Health in San Diego
- CAPT Min Chung-Park, NC, USN Senior nurse executive at the Naval Hospital in Sigonella, Italy
- CAPT Patricia W. Kelley, NC, USN Research representative of the Graduate School of Nursing, USUHS, to the Joint Task Force National Capital Region

Send Us Feedback

If you have any ideas for how TSNRP can improve its customer service or communication, please send us feedback. All you have to do is visit *Contact TSNRP* on our Web site at http://www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp/contact/.

- CAPT Maggie Richard, NC, USN
 Director of the Navy Human
 Research Protection Program at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, effective July 2008
- CAPT Maggie Richard, NC, USN Member of the Military Advisory Council for the National Institute of Nursing Research
- CDR Anita Smith, NC, USNR
 Reserve component specialty
 consultant to the Surgeon General
 for nursing research
- CAPT (ret) Charles Vacchiano, NC, USN
 Faculty member of the Department of Anesthesia at Duke University School of Nursing
- Col. John Murray, USAF, NC
 Director of education, training, and research for the Joint Task
 Force National Capital Region
 Medical Command
- Lt. Col. Karen L. Weiss, USAF, NC Consultant to the Surgeon General for research and specialty leader for United States Air Force nurse researchers

TSNRP Commends Our Deployed and Recently Returned Investigators

We extend our admiration and support to the military nurse researchers who have recently returned or been deployed:

Deployed

- MAJ Nancy Steele
- Lt. Col. Karen L. Weiss

Recently Returned

LTC Paul Lewis



Retirements

TSNRP wishes good futures and great fortunes to all of our nurse researchers who are retiring from duty in the United States military. Their expertise will be missed. TSNRP hopes they all will continue to mentor junior nurse researchers so that the military can continue to develop expert military nurse researchers.

Our noteworthy retirees include

- MG Gale Pollack, AN, USA
- COL Mary Hardy, AN, USA
- COL Janet Harris, AN, USA
- COL Debra Marks, AN, USA
- COL Patricia A. Patrician, AN, USA
- COL Stacey Young-McCaughan, AN, USA
- CAPT Margaret (Bonnie) Holder, LCDR, USN



Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2008

Congratulations to Col. John Murray, USAF, NC, for his appointment as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar to the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Kenya, and University of Eastern Africa, Baraton; the National Defense Medical Center, Taiwan (R.O.C.); and Oud Consultancy, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

"The Occasional Lecturing Program enables Visiting Scholars to share their specific research interests, speak on the history and culture of their countries, exchange ideas with U.S. students, faculty and community organizations, become better acquainted with U.S. higher education and create linkages between their home and host institutions" (Council for International Exchange of Scholars. At: http://www.cies.org/sir/olp/. Accessed April 2008).



TSNRP Executive Director Selected As a Distinguished Alumna

LTC Deborah Kenny, PhD, RN, AN, USA, was selected as a Distinguished Alumna by the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Amherst School of Nursing. This special honor was conferred upon her in recognition of her "exceptional scholarship and achievements" as part of a "celebration of a century of scholarship" on the 100th anniversary of the UMass Amherst Graduate School. LTC Kenny was hosted by the School of Nursing and recognized at a formal centennial celebratory dinner on April 9, 2008. As

Awards and Competitions

Nursing Research Lifetime Achievement Award

COL Stacey Young-McCaughan, AN, USA

Excellence in Nursing Research

COL Rick Ricciardi, AN, USA

University of San Diego Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award COL (ret) Mary Sarnecky, AN, USA

First Place in Category 2 of the Navy Research Competition at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth

CDR Andrea Parody, NC, USN

Establishing Military Baseline Scores on IMPACT, a Neurocognitive Assessment Instrument for the Assessment of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

National Naval Medical Center 23rd Annual Academic Research and Poster Competition

LCDR Carlin Callaway, NC, USN

Conceptualization of a Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Blood Administration

Journal of Medical Sciences Award for Research Excellence

Col. John S. Murray, USAF, NC

Outstanding Research Award

Col. Peggy McNeill, USAF, NC

Distinguished Masters Uniformed Faculty Award by the USUHS Graduate School of Nurses

CDR John P. Maye, NC, USN

USUHS Graduate School of Nursing Award Recipients 2008 Board of Regents Award

LCDR Michele Kane, NC, USN

Federal Nursing Service Chief Award

LCDR Michele Kane, NC, USN

D. Jean Wood Nursing Research Award

Lt. Col. Karen Weiss, USAF, NC

part of the celebration, she was invited to give a presentation to the university community. "This was a wonderful and totally unexpected honor," said LTC Kenny. "And what a pleasure it was to visit this marvelous institution again. The School of Nursing's warmth and hospitality was truly a highlight."

Kudos, continued

TSNRP Executive Board Member Announces Retirement

MG Gale Pollock, AN, USA, a remarkable member of TSNRP's Executive Board of Directors, has recently announced her retirement from the U.S. Army after years of dedicated service. A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), MG Pollack was the Deputy Surgeon General who immediately assumed the Surgeon General's duties during a particularly difficult time for U.S. Army medicine. She served as the Deputy Surgeon General of the U.S. Army from October 2006 to March 2007 and as chief of the Army Nurse Corps. She became acting Surgeon General for 9 months following the retirement of her predecessor, LTG Kevin C. Kiley, on March 20, 2007. As acting Surgeon General, she guided Walter Reed and other military health care facilities to move forward and to actively meet the needs of U.S. wounded warriors. She was the first non-physician to assume this position.

MG Pollock received her BSN from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She attended the U.S. Army Nurse Anesthesia Program and is a CRNA. She received her MBA from Boston University, a master's in health care administration from Baylor University, a master's in national security and strategy from the National Defense University, and an honorary doctorate in public service from the University of Maryland. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

MG Pollock served as the commanding general of Tripler Army Medical Center of the Pacific Regional Medical Command. She also served as the lead agent of TRICARE Pacific in Honolulu,

Hawaii. Her past military assignments include special assistant to the Surgeon General for information management and health policy; commander of the Martin Army Community Hospital in Fort Benning, Georgia; commander of U.S. Army Medical Activity in Fort Drum, New York; staff officer of the Strategic Initiatives Command Group for the Army Surgeon General; Department of Defense (DoD) health care advisor to the Congressional Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance: health fitness advisor at the National Defense University; senior policy analyst in health affairs at DoD; and chief of Anesthesia Nursing Service at Walter

Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Her awards and decorations are many and include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (with two oak leaf clusters), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with four oak leaf clusters), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. She also earned the Expert Field Medical Badge and the Parachutist Badge. She received the Army Staff Identification Badge for her work at the Pentagon and earned the German Armed Forces Military Efficiency Badge (Leistungsabzeichen) in gold. *

Phyllis J. Verhonick Research Excellence Awards 2008

Award-Winning Abstracts for Outstanding Evidence-Based Practice/Clinical Innovations

The following nurse researchers tied for first place for their outstanding abstracts:

Lori A. Loan, PhD, RNC Moving Toward An Evidence-Based Nurse Staffing Model

LCDR David R. Crumbley, NC, USN

Evidenced-Based Practice: Hourly Nursing Rounding

Award-Winning Paper for Research Done as Part of a Master's Level Nursing Program

MAJ Roger Horne, AN, USA Investigation of Modulation of the Alpha 2 Receptor in the Tetrahydropalmaine (THP) Analgesia in the Male Sprague-Dawley Rat

Award-Winning Paper for Research Done as Part of a Doctoral-Level Nursing Program

LTC Kathy Prue-Owens, AN, USA
Risk Factors and Beliefs About Cardiovascular Disease Among Active Duty
Service Members

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Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award

COL Holly Kennedy, AN, USA, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN, has received a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar award to conduct research at King's College London. She will examine midwifery models of care and the support of normal birth with optimal perinatal health outcomes in the United Kingdom.

COL Kennedy helped establish the graduate program in nurse-midwifery at the University of Rhode Island in 1993. She established a faculty practice at Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and received a governor citation for her service in primary care in that state. She is currently an associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco, where she is the co-director of the nurse-midwifery educational program. She is an associate editor for the Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health and is the co-chair of the Research Standing Committee of the International Confederation of Midwives. COL Kennedy is well known for her research linking midwifery practice to outcomes and leadership in the profession of midwifery. Many educational programs use her model of midwifery care, and she is recognized internationally for her support of normal birth. She recently completed a clinical trial, funded by TSNRP, on group prenatal care in the military.

COL Kennedy received her graduate nursing education from the Medical College of Georgia and her certificate in midwifery from the Frontier School of Midwifery & Family Nursing in Hyden, Kentucky. She received her PhD in nursing from the University of Rhode Island in 1999. Her career has encompassed primary care, military nursing, education, and research. COL Kennedy was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Nurse-

Midwives in 1999 and into the American Academy of Nursing in 2007. ★

"The US-UK Fulbright Awards were established in 1948 to enhance mutual understanding between the US and the UK. It was hoped that the awards would enable an exchange of ideas between the two nations and introduce its scholars to new cultures. The Scholars and Fellows awards provide post-doctoral, academic and professional fellowships for US citizens who

wish to lecture or conduct research at an educational institution in the UK. In making these awards, the Commission seeks candidates who are established or future leaders in their chosen fields and who will prove excellent ambassadors for the US, for their profession and for the US-UK Fulbright Commission. At: http://www.fulbright.co.uk/awards/us/scholars/index.html. Accessed April 2008).

Evidence-Based Practice

Nursing Accomplishments at Tripler Army Medical Center: Evidence-Based Practice

Thanks to the initiative and motivation of the nursing staff at Tripler Army Medical Center, Evidence-Based Practice is in full swing. During 2007, Tripler's nursing staff completed 12 Evidence-Based Practice projects that changed nursing practices to prevent ventilator-associated pneumonia, improve the management of patients with diabetes, and screen patients with depression for cardiovascular disease. Other successful projects included preparing children for surgery, improving postpartum education for new parents, and providing depression screening to family members of deployed soldiers. Nursing care improved among all patients, including active duty, family members, and children. By improving staff effectiveness and initiating a competency-training program for nurses preparing to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, this robust Evidence-Based Practice initiative has enhanced the professional practice of nursing at Tripler Army Medical Center.

LTC Debra Mark and LTC Mary Hardy of the Tripler Army Medical Center Nursing Research Service spearheaded the initiative, which was supported by TSNRP, and the 12 teams of nurses ensured the success of the projects they implemented. The Change Champions of each team were as follows:

Dr. Judy Carlson	MAJ Vernell	1LT Theresa Nowak
MAJ Sheila Casteel	Flood-DeYoung	1LT Ken Porter
COL Susan Cheshier	Ms. Kelley Lee	MAJ Anna Righero
Ms Kim Delmour	LCDR Wendy McCraw	MAJ Margaret Sobieck
MAJ Laura DeSnoo	LTC Madelyn McKennan	2LT Mary Ugaddan
	MCMCIman	

MAJ Pamela Ellis

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Final Reports and Funding

Newly Published Final Reports

TSNRP Final Reports are a programmatic requirement, and their publication is another step in research dissemination. These reports are not only for public access, but they also inform the citizens of the United States about how we spend public funds.

The TSNRP Final Reports listed below were entered into NTIS and CINAHL databases. The PB number allows you to find the article quickly on NTIS.

Congratulations to the following PIs for completing the final report process!

3-Year Awards

Col. Elizabeth J. Bridges, USAF, NC (2008). *War Skills for the USAF Nurse: Readiness to Deploy.* TSNRP Study N99–P04, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108711.

CAPT Reg Arthur Williams, NC, USN (2008). *STARS Project: Strategies to Assist Navy Recruit Success.* TSNRP Study N01–002, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108712.

2-Year Awards

Lt. Col. Theresa L. Dremsa-Brewer, USAF, NC (2008). *CCATT Nurses' Deployed Experience*. TSNRP Study N03–014, NTIS Accession #PB2008–105139. LTC Dennis M. Driscoll, AN, USA (2007). *Nursing's Retention of Trauma Resuscitative Skills*. TSNRP Study N01–011, NTIS Accession #PB2007–114763.

COL (ret) Bonnie M. Jennings, AN, USA (2008). *Expectations of Military Health Care: An Inductive Analysis*. TSNRP Study N00–023, NTIS Accession #PB2008–106585.

LTC Caterina E. M. Lasome, AN, USA (2008). *Email as a Communication Tool in Army Nursing Management*. TSNRP Study N99–016, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108724.

Brig. Gen. (ret) Jenenne P. Nelson, USAFR, NC (2008). *Experiences & Patterns of Tobacco Use in the Army*. TSNRP Study N04–019, NTIS Accession #PB2008–105187.

LTC Joseph O'Sullivan, AN, USA (2008). The Effect of Diazoxide on Heat Shock Protein Expression and Physiological Response to Hemorrhagic Shock Cerebral Stroke. TSNRP Study N04–020, NTIS Accession #PB2008–106575.

CDR Raymond E. Phillips, AN, USA (2008). *HIV Risk Behavior and Condom Use: Collecting Data for Prevention*. TSNRP Study N00–024, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108719.

LCDR (ret) George A. Zangaro, NC, USN (2007). *Factors Associated with Retention of Nurses: Phase I Instrument Testing.* TSNRP Study N02–031, NTIS Accession #PB2007–114764.

Graduate Awards

CAPT Min Chung-Park, NC, USN (2008). *Unintended Pregnancy Prevention and Active Duty Women*. TSNRP Study N04–P13, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108729.

LTC Denise L. Hopkins-Chadwick, AN, USA (2007). *Motherhood, Stress, and Role Strain in Junior Enlisted Women*. TSNRP Study N04–015, NTIS Accession #PB2007–114672.

COL Richard Ricciardi, AN, USA (2008). *The Impact of Body Armor on Physical Work Performance*. TSNRP Study N05–P20, NTIS Accession #PB2008–108710.



Of Note

After successfully defending her dissertation, "Critical Care Performance in a Simulated Military Aircraft Cabin Environment," Col. Peggy McNeill, USAF, NC, received her PhD in November 2007 at the University of Maryland School of Nursing in Baltimore. Col. McNeill is master clinician of critical care nursing at Andrews Air Force Base.

CDR Andrea Parodi, NC, USN, will deploy on a Project Hope humanitarian mission on the USS *Kearsarg* as the nurse educator in August 2008.

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Newly Funded Studies

Congratulations to the following researchers and scholars for successful funding in 2007 and 2008. (All 2007 proposals were funded in FY 2008.)

U.S. Army

COL Kathryn M. Gaylord, AN, USA, "A Comparison of PTSD and Mild TBI in Burned Military Service Members." *Category:* Novice

LTC (ret) Nancy Ryan-Wenger, AN, USA, "A Trial to Maximize the Accuracy of Military Women's GU Infection Self-Diagnoses." *Category:* 2 Years

CPT Michael Bentley, AN, USA, "Diazoxide as a Neuroprotective Element for IV Fluid Resuscitation." *Category:* 2 Years

U.S. Navy

CAPT Linnea Axman, NC, USN, "Development of the Evidence-Based Protocol: Back to Basics Bundle of Nursing Care." *Category:* EBP

CAPT Janet Pierce, NC, USNR, "Lung and Diaphragm Damage at Varying Oxygen Levels and Ventilator Modes Post Hemorrhagic Shock." Category: 2 Years

LCDR James Reasor, NC, USN, "The Effectiveness of Stress Inoculation Training with Military Personnel Deployed." *Category:* Novice

LCDR Dennis Spence, NC, USN, "Individual Differences in HPA and SAM Axis in Students Attending BESS." *Category:* Graduate Research Award

U.S. Air Force

Col. (ret) Penny Pierce, USAFR, NC, "US Army Deployment Resilience & Retention: Wave II." *Category:* 2 Years

Capt. Jennifer Hatzfield, USAF, NC, "Assessing for Health Disparities in the Air Force." *Category:* Graduate Research Award

Got Questions?

The Got Questions? link on TSNRP's Web site has had little action. We know you must have a question or two. So why not ask? Your answers are only a URL away! Just visit our Web site at http://www.usuhs. mil/tsnrp/contact/ and click on Got Questions? directly below Contact TSNRP. We will find the most qualified person to answer your queries and will e-mail you the response. And remember, your queries will benefit all readers: we will include summaries of and responses to the most commonly asked questions in the next issue of TSNRP News.



Announcements

May 2008

Grant Camp I, May 18–23, 2008, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS)

June 2008

Call for Abstracts for the Karen A. Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Poster Session; application deadline: June 30, 2008

July 2008

FY 2009 Call for Proposals published on TSNRP Web site, July 7, 2008

Public Service, Public Trust: Deepening the Experience of Research Integrity Conference, July 23, 2008, USUHS **Post-Award Grant Management Workshop,** July 30, 31, & August 1, 2008, San Diego

August 2008

Grant Camp II, August 4–5, 2008, San Diego

Researcher Development Course, August 6–7, 2008, San Diego

September 2008

Research Integrity: A National Capital Region Educational Conference for the Federal Nursing Communities, September 17, 2008, USUHS

October 2008

2008 National State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research, October 2–4, 2008, Washington, D.C.

November 2008

Proposals for FY 2009 Call for Proposals due November 4, 2008, by 1600 e.s.t., in the TSNRP Office

II4th Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S. (AMSUS), November 9–14, 2008, San Antonio

Karen Rieder Research/Federal Nursing Service Poster Session, November 10, 2008, AMSUS, San Antonio

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Tell Us About an Event

You can submit information about an event for publication on our Web site. Just visit *Tell Us About an Event* at http://www.usuhs.mil/tsnrp/site/add_event.shtml, complete the form, and send it to us. We will review the event for its content and appropriateness. If it meets the criteria, it will be posted on our Web site.



Know Your Specialty Leaders

Your specialty leaders are a valuable resource for current research requirements and initiatives throughout the military, the Department of Defense, and the Federal Nursing Services.

U.S. Army

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